GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3695
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000
EMPLOYMENT GENERATION BY REARING OF SHEEP AND GOAT
BRAJ MOHAN RAM

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sheep and goat rearing plays an important role in providing employment opportunities and source of income to the economically backward rural people;

(b) if so, the policy of the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) the funds allocated for this purpose during the Ninth Five Year Plan and the target fixed in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a): Yes Sir.

(b): The policy of the Union Government aims at genetic upgradation, expansion of existing infrastructure, intensification of cooperative efforts, systematic dissemination of appropriate technologies, management, health care, promotion of fodder crops/trees, wool procurement & marketing by market intervention for development of sheep and goats in the country. The integrated sheep & wool development and machine shearing -cum- training approach have been adopted for sheep development.

(c): The Union Ministry of Agriculture (Animal Husbandry & Dairying Department) has allocated Rs.15.65 crores for Central Sheep Breeding Farm, Hissar and Rs.21.05 Crores under its Centrally Sponsored Scheme `National Ram/Buck Production Programme & Programme for Rabbit Development`.Central grants are also made available to States for control of animal diseases, feed & fodder production, demonstration centres and rinderpest eradication.

Central Sheep Breeding Farm, Hissar has a target to produce and supply acclimatized 4000 exotic and crossbred rams during 9th Five Year Plan besides providing training in machine sheep shearing and maintenance of machines to sheep rearers.

The Central Institute for Research on Goats, Makhdoom, Mathura District Uttar Pradesh is a pioneer institute in the country for undertaking research on goats in breeding, feeding, management & disease control etc.

The Central Sheep & Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar (Rajasthan) is another pioneer institute in the country for conducting research in breeding, feeding management, disease control, wool grading, scoring and its utilisations.

The Central Advisory Committee for Sheep, Goats & Rabbits Development is constituted by Government for tendering advice on Government policies and guidance in this field.

The Ministry of Textile (Central Wool Development Board) has proposed Rs.14.82 Crores under the Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Programme for providing health coverage and breed improvement of 25 lakh sheep and purchase of 80 sheep shearing machines during the 9th Five -Year Plan.